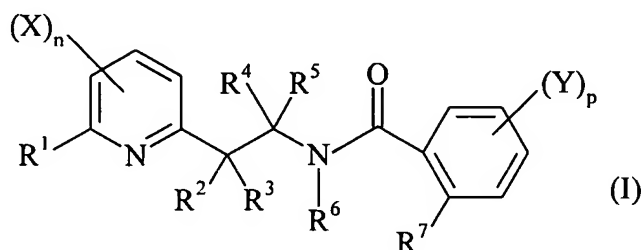


**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of ~~general~~ formula (I):



in which :

n is 1, 2 or 3;

each X is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of  
a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- $\lambda^6$ -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)- $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl group, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkyl, a  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -alkenyl, a  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -alkynyl, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkylamino, a di- $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkylamino, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkoxy, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkylsulfanyl, a  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -alkenyloxy, a  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -alkynyloxy, a  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl,

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a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbamoyl, a (N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl)oxycarbamoyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbamoyl, a (N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl ~~or~~ and a phenylamino;

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- $\lambda^6$ -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyloxy, a

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C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyloxy, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms ~~or~~ and a phenylamino;

with the proviso that X and R<sup>1</sup> are not both a hydrogen atom;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are ~~the same or different and are~~ independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-

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alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino;

or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are ~~the same or different and are~~ independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

R<sup>6</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cyanoalkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-aminoalkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylamino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylamino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfonyl ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

each Y is ~~the same or different and is~~ independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ<sup>6</sup>-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a

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formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonamide; and

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ<sup>6</sup>-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-

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alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, ~~metallic and metalloidic complexes~~ a salt or N-oxide thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein n is 1 or 2.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein each X is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein the 2-pyridyl is substituted by X in the 3- and/or in the 5-position.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein R<sup>7</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl ~~or~~ and a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms.

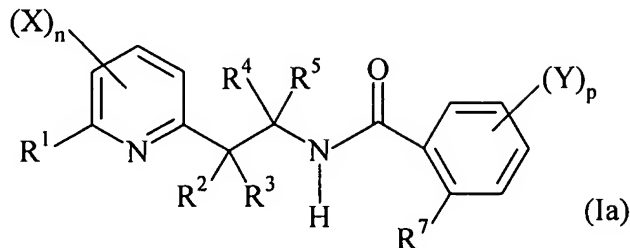
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7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein p is 1 or 2.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 7, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein p is 1.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein each Y is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom ~~or~~ and  
a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein each Y is a hydrogen atom.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein the phenyl is substituted by Y ~~preferentially~~ first in the para position.
12. (Currently Amended) A process (~~A~~) for the preparation of a compound of ~~general~~  
formula (Ia)

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wherein :

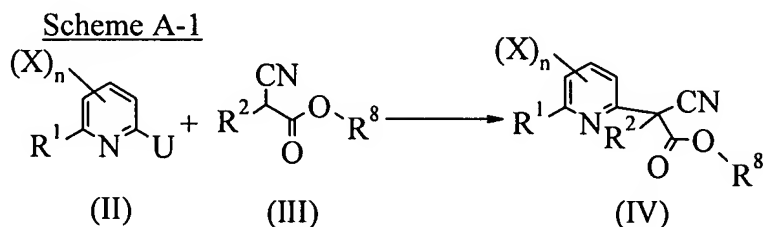
$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^7$ , X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

$R^2$ ,  $R^4$ , and  $R^5$  are hydrogen atoms;

$R^3$  is a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl;

which process comprises;

a first step according to reaction scheme A-1 :



in which :

$R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl ~~or~~ and pentafluorophenyl;

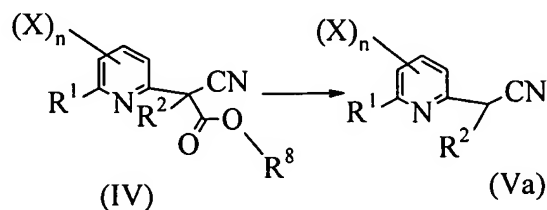
U is a leaving group ~~chosen as being~~ selected from the group consisting of a halogen, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylsulfonate ~~or~~ and a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  haloalkylsulfonate;



comprising the arylation of a cyanoacetate derivative of ~~general~~ formula (III) by a pyridine derivative of ~~general~~ formula (II), to provide a 2-(pyridyl)cyanoacetate derivative of ~~general~~ formula (IV), in the presence of a base, at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C;

a second step according to reaction scheme A-2 :

Scheme A-2



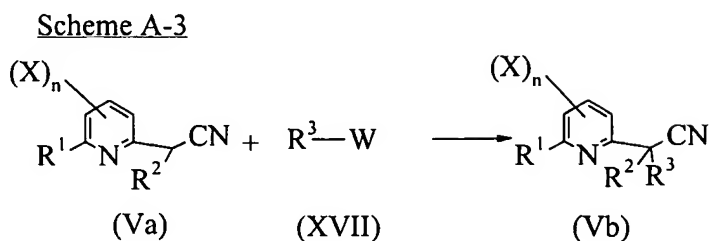
in which :

~~R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom;~~

~~R<sup>8</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;~~

comprising a basic hydrolysis, an acidic hydrolysis or a displacement by ~~an~~ a halide of a compound of ~~general~~ formula (IV) ~~in the same or a different pot~~ to provide, upon heating at a temperature of from 40°C to reflux, a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of ~~general~~ formula (Va);

a third step according to reaction scheme A-3 :



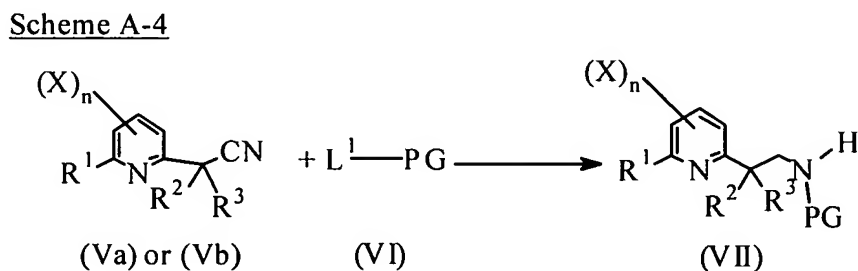
in which :

~~R<sup>3</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;~~

W is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonate, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylsulfonate ~~or~~ and a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate,

comprising the alkylation of a compound of ~~general~~ formula (Va) by a reagent of ~~general~~ formula (XVII) to provide a compound of ~~general~~ formula (Vb);

a fourth step according to reaction scheme A-4 :



in which :

~~R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;~~

L<sup>1</sup> is a leaving group ~~chosen as being a~~ selected from the group consisting of an

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~~-OR<sup>8</sup> group or a~~ and an -OCOR<sup>8</sup> group,

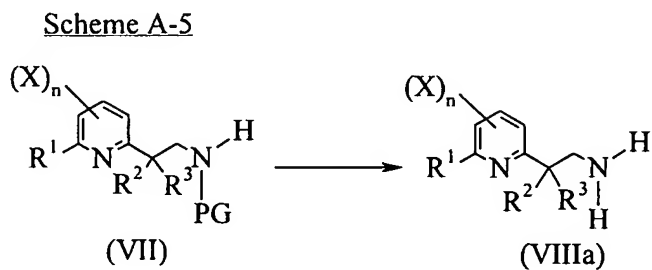
~~R<sup>8</sup> being a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;~~

PG represents a protecting group ~~which may be~~ selected from the group consisting of a -COOR<sup>8</sup> group or and a -COR<sup>8</sup> group,

~~R<sup>8</sup> being a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, a benzyl, methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;~~

comprising the reduction, by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, of a compound of general formula (Va) ~~or~~ (Vb), in the presence of a catalyst and in the presence of a compound of general formula (VI) to produce a compound of general formula (VII), at a temperature of from 0°C to 150°C and under a pressure of from 1 bar and 100 bar;

a fifth step according to reaction scheme A-5 :



in which:—

— ~~R<sup>3</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;~~

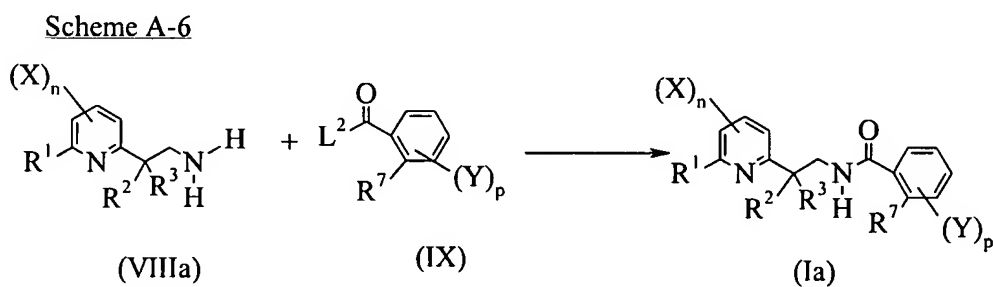
— ~~PG represents a protecting group which may be a -COOR<sup>8</sup> group or -COR<sup>8</sup> group,~~

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~~R<sup>8</sup> being a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;~~

comprising a deprotection reaction, in an acidic or in a basic medium, of a compound of general formula (VII) to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt salts; and

a sixth step according to reaction scheme A-6 :

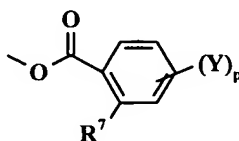


in which :

~~R<sup>3</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;~~

L<sup>2</sup> is a leaving group ~~chosen as being~~ selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR<sup>8</sup> group, an OCOR<sup>8</sup>,

~~R<sup>8</sup> being a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;~~ or and a group of formula

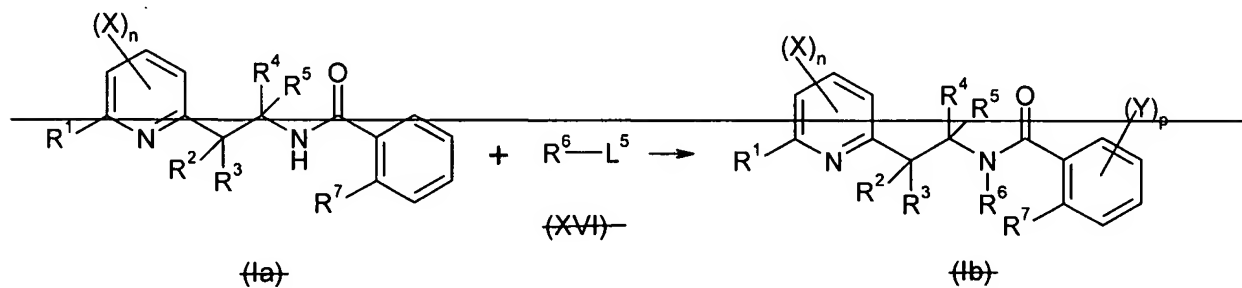


comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of ~~general~~ formula (VIIIa) or one of its ~~salt~~ salts, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of ~~general~~ formula (Ia).

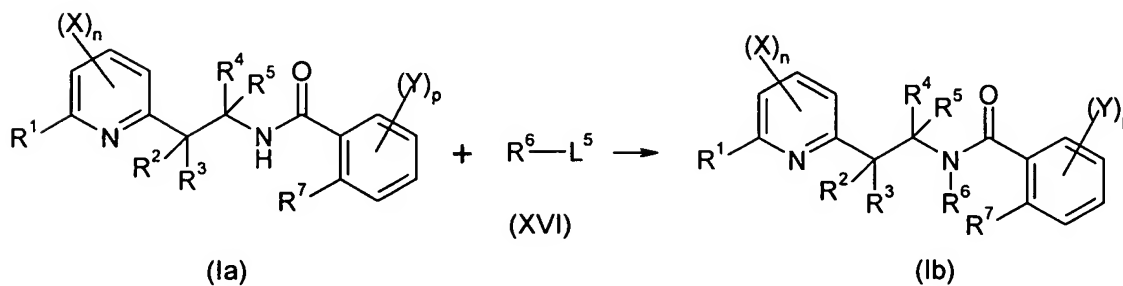
13-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The process ~~according to~~ of claim 12 ~~which~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising a step according to reaction scheme G :

~~Scheme G~~



Scheme G



in which:

$n$  is 1, 2 or 3;

~~X is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- $\text{f}$ -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl group, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, a  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl, a  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylamino, a di- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylamino, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxy, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulfanyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyloxy, a  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyloxy, a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -cycloalkyl, a  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylearbonyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylearbamoyl, a di- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylearbamoyl, a (N- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl)oxyarbamoyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxyarbamoyl, a (N- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl)- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxyarbamoyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxyarbonyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkoxyarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylearbonyloxy, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylearbonylamino, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyloxyarbonyloxy, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulphenyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulphinyl, a  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen~~

atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylsulphonyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a ( $C_1-C_6$ -alkoxyimino)- $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl, a ( $C_1-C_6$ -alkenyloxyimino)- $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl, a ( $C_1-C_6$ -alkynyloxyimino)- $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)- $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl or a phenylamino;

~~—————  $R^+$  is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- $I^6$ -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)- $C_1-C_6$ -alkyl group, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkyl, a  $C_2-C_8$ -alkenyl, a  $C_2-C_8$ -alkynyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylamino, a di- $C_1-C_8$ -alkylamino, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkoxy, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylsulfanyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_2-C_8$ -alkenyloxy, a  $C_2-C_8$ -halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_3-C_8$ -alkynyloxy, a  $C_3-C_8$ -halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_3-C_8$ -cycloalkyl, a  $C_3-C_8$ -halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylearbonyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylearbamoyl, a di- $C_1-C_8$ -alkylearbamoyl, a N- $C_1-C_8$ -alkyloxycarbamoyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkoxyarbamoyl, a N- $C_1-C_8$ -alkyl- $C_1-C_8$ -alkoxyarbamoyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkoxyarbonyl, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkoxyarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylearbonyloxy, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylearbonylamino, a  $C_1-C_8$ -halogenoalkylearbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a  $C_1-C_8$ -alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di- $C_1-C_8$ -alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a  $C_1-C_8$ -~~

~~alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenylamino;~~  
~~with the proviso that X and R<sup>1</sup> are not both a hydrogen atom;~~

~~————— R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino;~~

~~————— or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;~~

~~————— R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;~~

~~————— or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;~~

R<sup>6</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-



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C<sub>6</sub>-cyanoalkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-aminoalkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylamino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylamino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfonyl or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms; and

p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

~~—————Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-<sup>f</sup>-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfanyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonamide; and~~

~~—————R<sup>7</sup> is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-<sup>f</sup>-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-~~

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~~alkenyl, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphenyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphinyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulphonyl, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonamide;~~

~~————— as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic and metalloidic complexes;~~

L<sup>5</sup> is a leaving group ~~chosen as being~~ selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a 4-methyl phenylsulfonyloxy, and a methylsulfonyloxy;

comprising the reaction of a compound of ~~general~~ formula (Ia) with a compound of ~~general~~ formula (XVI) to provide a compound of ~~general~~ formula (Ib).

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) Fungicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 and an agriculturally acceptable support.

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21. (Currently Amended) Method for ~~preventively or curatively combating the~~ treating phytopathogenic fungi of crops, ~~characterised in that~~ comprising applying an effective and non-phytotoxic amount of a composition according to claim 20 ~~is applied~~ to the plant seeds or to the plant leaves and/or to the fruits of the plants or to the soil in which the plants are growing or in which it is desired to grow them.